



Texas Prescription Monitoring Program

Information on Controlled Substance Prescriptions from Advanced Practice Registered Nurses and Physician Assistants

The Texas Medical Board reviewed [Section 157.0511 \(b\)\(2\)](#) of the Medical Practices Act and determined to interpret this portion of their Act to mean that, if delegated by the physician, an APRN or PA may issue prescriptions for a total of 90-days' supply of a controlled substance including refills. The intent of the section is to allow 90-days' supply and not to limit the patient to one refill. This means the APRN or PA could issue a prescription with more than one refill provided the total quantity does not exceed more than a 90-day supply. Further discussions with staff of the Medical Board have also resulted in the interpretation that essentially a controlled substance prescription issued by an APRN or PA, expires 90-days after issuance.

Sec. 157.0511. PRESCRIPTION DRUG ORDERS.

(a) A physician's authority to delegate the carrying out or signing of a prescription drug order under this subchapter is limited to:

- (1) dangerous drugs; and
- (2) controlled substances to the extent provided by Subsection (b).

(b) A physician may delegate the carrying out or signing of a prescription drug order for a controlled substance only if:

(1) the prescription is for a controlled substance listed in Schedule III, IV, or V as established by the commissioner of public health under Chapter 481, Health and Safety Code;

(2) the prescription, including a refill of the prescription, is for a period not to exceed 90 days;

(3) with regard to the refill of a prescription, the refill is authorized after consultation with the delegating physician and the consultation is noted in the patient's chart; and

(4) with regard to a prescription for a child less than two years of age, the prescription is made after consultation with the delegating physician and the consultation is noted in the patient's chart.